

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BONN 15240 151711Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PA-02 INR-07 OES-07 /029 W
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USIAC

E.O. 11652: N/A
SUBJECT: GENEVA NEWSPAPER IMPLIES "SABOTAGE" CAUSE OF
EUROPEAN SATELLITE FAILURE

THE GERMAN PRESS AGENCY (DPA) REPORTED, SEPTEMBER 15,
A GENEVA DATELINE STORY IN WHICH SABOTAGE IS IMPLIED
FOR FAILURE OF THE EUROPEAN TELECOMMUNICATION
SATELLITE. QUOTING THE ENTIRE STORY:
FAILURE AT SATELLITE LAUNCHING. BASLER ZEITUNG:
SABOTAGE CAUSE OF FAILURE AT SATELLITE LAUNCHING?
GENEVA, SEPTEMBER 15, 1977 - (DPA) - IN A STORY TITLED
"SABOTAGE?" THE BASEL DAILY "BASLER ZEITUNG" NOTES ON
THURSDAY WITH REGARD TO THE FAILURE OF THE LAUNCHING
OF THE EUROPEAN TELECOMMUNICATION SATELLITE:
EUROPE WAS SETTING OUT IN THE FIELD OF THE CONSTRUCTION
OF TELECOMMUNICATION SATELLITES TO SURPASS AMERICA
WITH A SPECIAL SATELLITE CONSTRUCTION TECHNIQUE. THIS
NEW TECHNOLOGY WAS TO BE TESTED WITH THE OTS-SATELLITE
AND THE LAUNCHING OF THIS VERY SATELLITE FAILED
WEDNESDAY NIGHT. IF THIS CONSTRUCTION DESIGN SHOULD
HAVE PROVED A SUCCESS, THE EUROPEAN SPACE INDUSTRY
WOULD HAVE CERTAINLY BEEN AWARDED A 150 MILLION
SWISS-FRANC CONTRACT FOR THE REPLACEMENT OF THE
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MARISA SYSTEM. THE FAILURE HAS PROBABLY SPOILED
THE CHANCES TO GET THIS ORDER. THIS PROVOKES THE
QUESTION: TO WHOSE PROFIT? THE UNITED STATES SO FAR
MANAGED TO MAKE INOPERATIONAL EVERY FOURTH OF THE
EUROPEAN SATELLITES LAUNCHED BY THEM. AS TO THE
LAUNCHING OF HER OWN SATELLITES THERE WAS, HOWEVER,
ONLY ONE FAILURE AMONG SOME HUNDRED LAUNCHINGS. UNQUOTE.

IN LIGHT MAJOR GERMAN WIRE SERVICE PICKED UP STORY,
WOULD APPRECIATE CLARIFICATION OR READILY AVAILABLE
INFORMATION FROM NASA TO SET RECORD STRAIGHT.
KLIEFORTH.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
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Sent Date: 15-Sep-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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